

CARR - 172

ST. BENJAMIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

1890

Krider's Church Road
Westminster

Public

St. Benjamin's Lutheran Church was organized in 1761 and joined with the Reformed congregation to build a Union Church in 1763 (see Krider's United Church of Christ, CARR - 146). This first log church was demolished in 1809 when a two-story brick structure was built in the style typical of the Union churches found in northern Carroll County. In 1890, the Lutheran congregation decided to build its own church and the 1809 church, which was located near the site of the Polk burial plot, was torn down. A Queen Anne style church was designed by J. A. Dempwolf, an architect from York, Pennsylvania. The new building was constructed in a cross-shaped plan with a steeply pitched roof and central bell tower. In 1950, the original church was enlarged by a 27 foot addition to the front of the church under the supervision of Alfred Hamme, an architect from York, Pennsylvania. A modern wing was added to the south side of the church in 1969.

St. Benjamin's, casually refered
to as Kriders after an early land donor,
is an attractive, simple Queen Anne
style with shingled and gabled character-
istics. The congregation was established
in 1761, making it the second oldest
Lutheran Church in Carroll County.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Carr. -172

MAGI #0701724608

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

The Church of Pfeiff Krick
Benjamin Kirche, (Kriders)

AND/OR COMMON

St. Benjamine's (Kriders) Lutheran Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Kriders Church Road

CITY, TOWN

☒ VICINITY OF Westminster

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

☐ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☒ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

☐ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☒ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Kriders Lutheran Church

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Kriders Church Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

VICINITY OF

Westminster

STATE, zip code

Md. 21157

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE

Carroll County Office Building

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

NONE

STREET & NUMBER

225 North Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>1891</u>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

1763 - The first church, a story and a half, log structure, served as a school-house as well. The land it stood on is now Krider's Joint Cemetery grounds, and was owned at one time by John Krauter. A memorial marker now stands where the structure once did. A sexton house, built of logs, also was erected soon after the first church and stood until 1909 when the present sexton house was built.

The location of the church in the first record books is at Pfeiff Krick which today is remote from this area. Meadow Branch or Cranberry Creek could have carried the name of Pipe Creek at the time.

1809 - built by Andrew Reese, born in 1759, who had done other church building in the area. This two-story brick structure was 3 x 3 bays, with a gable roof and front and side entrances. Rounded arch window frames had voussoir brick trim. Windows had blind shutters. The horizontal cornice, extended around at least the sides and front (picture does not show the back) of the building.

1891 - The church has a very simple Queen Anne Style. The dimensions of the main auditorium was originally 40 x 80 feet, with a Sunday School room increasing the length to 70 feet. The total cost, including land was \$5400.

Today the 1891 church remains standing and in use, but with additions, mostly interior renovations. It faces fairly S/E and sits upon a small hill off Krider's Church Road.

EXTERIOR - The Latin-cross plan, with a further extended south/west side (because of an early to middle 1900's addition) has gable and jerkinhead roofs with shingle cover. The S/E entrance facade has a set of three single-sash windows encased in rectangular frames on either side of the recent double doors, this with a gable roof, one-bay porch. Above this porch are three trefoil, top windows. The central one is larger. The foundation of this building is semi-rock faced; strictly coursed stone. Above this and below the first story windows, the wall structure is American Bond brick, painted white. Above this, the wall surface has imbricated shingles and an extended horizontal cornice with plain supportive brackets. Under the gable point, is a triangle shaped open-vent. The motif is simple Queen Anne; shingled, gabled, with a bit of Dutch and French Chateaux influence.

The N/E side has a gable roofed short arm, of the cross plan, very similar to the front gable described above, with a semi-circular three-part, stained glass window on the upper story. The entire side has two sets of five stained glass windows, each on the long wall, two sets of three stained glass windows on the gable facade, both on the first level. A more recent concrete block section is connected to the far back of the building, which blends in shape and color to the older section.

The N/W back wall is shingled (imbricated pattern also), but void of windows and connected to a number of more recent structures of brick and cement block.

The S/W side is connected to the 1970 brick building which also stands on the S/W side. This extended short arm has gable and jerkinhead roofs, and a set of five stained glass windows similar to others around the building. The shingle and brick motif is constant on the exterior of the 1891 building.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1891

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

...for early Reformed history refer to CARR. -174 & 146
 ...for early Lutheran history refer to CARR. -173 & -166

St. Benjamine's is the second oldest Lutheran Church in Carroll County. Its history dates back to the early days of Lutheran congregations, organized along the well known trail travelled by German immigrants as they came from a Philadelphia port, through Pennsylvania, to southern points, as far as Virginia. They crossed the Susquehanna at Wright's Ferry (Wrightsville), and moved westward to Yorktown (York), Conewago (Hanover), Monacacy, and Frederick. Three churches were established south of this trail in Maryland -- Manchester (1760), Pfeiff Krick (Pipe Creek, 1761) and Silver Run (1762). St. Benjamine's was originally known as "The Church at Pfeiff Krick". The origin of the 'Kriders' is not certain; perhaps because a man by the name of Greider donated the ground for the church, perhaps because two extra acres were bought from a John Krauter, land in and around the church and previously called Braun's (Brown's) Delight. Greider - Krauter -- Kriders??

The only reference to the presumed date of organization is found in Rev. P. H. Miller's "History of Grace Lutheran Church, Westminster", which states that Kriders was organized August 12, 1761. He had access to records that have been lost.

-former information taken from St. Benjamine's 190th Anniversary Service" program

The first church was erected on "Braun's Delight in Pfeiff Krick, in the Frederick County. This was part of 350 acre plat of land which stood near Westminster, granted to George Brown in 1743. The one and a half story log structure was owned jointly by the Reformed and Lutheran congregations, who both, in need of a church, united, built one and worshipped in that manner. The structure was used until 1809, when a second church, a two story brick structure was built. The logs from the first church were sold after destruction, and possibly used in the erection of 114 E. Main Street in Westminster. In 1889, the second church was damaged beyond repair in a lightning storm. In 1890, the two congregations who had worshipped together for over twenty-five years, mutually decided to dissolve that relationship and build their own church. Damage to the old church as well as substantial growth in the two congregations, especially the Lutherans who outnumbered the Reformed, concluded this decision. The Lutheran congregation purchased two and a half acres of land from Mr. Milton Schaeffer, for \$500, a short distance east of the 1809 church. During construction, worship was held in Morelock's School House, while useable materials from the old church were divided between the two congregations. The cornerstone was laid, June 25, 1890. The Queen Anne style building had a main auditorium of 40x80 ft.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Service Program of the 190th Anniversary -1951

Carroll County Times -- Oct 8, 1976

"Church to observe 215th Birthday"

Lutheran Churches of Carroll County -compiled by Branford Gist Lynch

2/12/37 -Democratic Advocate -1909

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Fred Eckhardt

ORGANIZATION

Carroll County Committee of the Md. Historical Trust

DATE

Winter 1979

STREET & NUMBER

210 East Main Street

TELEPHONE

848-6494

CITY OR TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

8 SIGNIFICANCE

with a Sunday School room increasing the length to 70ft. The total cost, including ground was \$5,400. The 1809 keystone that read "Benjamine's Kirche" in German was included in construction of the new church.

In 1924, walls were reinforced, aisles carpeted, pews painted and floors re-finished. The basement was enlarged, a new roof put on and contemporary cement work done outside, all for \$6,000.

1937 - parish house added

1951 - the present building was renovated and enlarged which added 27 feet to the front of the church, increasing the nave and basement capacity. Hardwood floors, new pews, light fixtures and carpet were added. The chancel was updated. A 12 x 14 foot sacristy was added to the right of the chancel. A new roof and ceiling were installed. The entire floor of the basement was lowered in order to provide for an eight and a half foot ceiling.

On Oct 15, 1961, St. Benjamine's marked its 200th Anniversary, and its 215th during the nation's Bicentennial. In cooperation with Benjamine's United Church of Christ, St. Benjamine's Lutheran dedicated a monument near the center of the cemetery, marking the site of the original log church in 1776.

A Christian Education Building was built and dedicated on January 11, 1970. The former education facilities in the basement were remodeled.

St. Benjamine was originally a part of a thirteen church circuit, served by ministers from Hanover, Pa. The new Westminster charge was instituted in 1842, which included Emanuel (Baust), St. Benjamine's, Silver Run and Winter's. In 1869, a charge was formed with Krider's, St. John's (Leister's) and Grace, Westminster, in the Westminster Charge. Winter's and Baust's joined Mt. Union to form a new charge. In 1886, the division of the Westminster charge took place with Grace Church now as the Westminster charge and the two congregations, St. Benjamine's and St. John's, to constitute the new Salem Parish. The latter is one of the oldest parishes in the Maryland Synod, Lutheran Churches of America (LCA), and has been going strong for over ninety years.

Adjoining the church is one of the oldest burying grounds in Carroll County. It was laid out in 1763, the year in which the first burials were made. The earliest inscriptions are in German, and up until the late 1790's are illegible. Both Reformed and Lutherans shared this in the early days.

The first church record (in German) lists names of those who communed during the years 1781 - 1863, with a few exceptions in between. Communion service appears to have been held once a year and beginning with 1784, twice a year. English first appeared in 1826 when 17 youths were confirmed in German and 2 in English.

7 DESCRIPTION (con)

Atop and mid-back of the main gable roof sits a wood shingled, square belfry, with blunted corners. The pointed, wood shingled roof also has blunted corners. Above this is a botonée type cross and a fancy support for it.

INTERIOR - ...was completely renovated in 1951, including new windows, floors, wall cover and furniture.

Entrance into the nave is through the S/E rectangular narthex, with textured plaster ceilings and walls, with four inch baseboards. There is a two run stairway up to a nursery area with recent, one-large pane windows, overlooking the nave and a two run stairway, down to a large activity room in the basement. A double, recent doorway and a northern (on the right) single doorway, enters into the nave. The doors have recent Latin cross windows.

The two-row nave is fifteen pews deep, with middle and side aisles: the nave basically rectangular, with the chancel and altar area in the center of the N/W end, and transept section. Floor boards are very narrow (1951). Ceiling and walls are of textured and painted plaster (1951). The ceiling is and has always been a flat pyramid shape, which is broken at the transept. All windows are 1951, also are stained glass with upper portions in a trefoil shape, with the glass pattern consistent throughout. Each is enhanced beautifully, encased within architrave, natural wood window frames; in groups of threes and fives, along the sides of the nave and the altar wall. The chancel furniture and altar, as well as protective railing, are natural wood and were installed in 1951. The altar area is framed by a tudor-arch, shaped wall divider. Beyond the chancel area is the sacristy.

To the left, facing the altar (south) is the later section, that was not renovated in 1951, thus its characteristics are earlier than the renovated church. Beyond this section, the church is connected to the 1970 addition.

No visible interior details are left from the original 1891 building save for perhaps the window frames in the nursery area above the narthex.



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

225. N. Center Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157

WESTMINSTER PLANNING DISTRICT

FIELD SHEET--HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY

COUNTY:	CARROLL
TOWN:	Westminster
LOCATION:	Krider's Church Road
TAX MAP 38 Block 18 P-7	
COMMON NAME:	St. Benjamin's Lutheran Church
FUNCTIONAL TYPE:	Church
OWNER:	Trustees of St Benjamin's Lutheran Church
ADDRESS:	Krider's Church Road Westminster MD 21157
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:	Yes (X) No () Restricted ()
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:	Local () State () National ()

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Structural System

- Foundation: Stone (X) Brick () Concrete () Concrete Block ()
- Wall Structure
 - Wood: Log () Post and Beam () Balloon (X)
 - Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick () Stone () Concrete () Concrete Block ()
 - Iron () D. Steel () E. Other
- Wall Covering: Weatherboard () German Siding () Board and Batten ()
Wood Shingle (X) Shiplap () Novelty () Stucco () Sheet Metal ()
Aluminum () Asphalt Shingle () Brick Veneer () Stone Veneer ()
Bonding Pattern: Other:
- Roof Structure
 - Truss: Wood (X) Iron () Steel () Concrete ()
 - Other:
- Roof Covering: Slate () Wood Shingle () Asphalt Shingle (X) Sheet Metal ()
Built Up () Rolled () Tile () Other:
- Engineering Structure:
- Other:

Appendages: Porches () Towers () Cupolas (X) Dormers () Chimneys () Sheds ()
Ells () Wings (X) Other:

Roof Style: Gable (X) Hip () Shed () Flat () Mansard () Gambrel () Jerkinhead ()
Saw Tooth () With Monitor () With Bellcast () With Parapet ()
With False Front () Other:

Number of Stories: 1

Number of Bays: 3 x 4

Approximate Dimensions: _____

Entrance Location: center

SURVEY NUMBER: CARR-172

NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:

UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Easting/Northing

U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP: New Windsor

PRESENT FORMAL NAME:
St. Benjamin's Lutheran ChurchORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:
Krider's Union Church

PRESENT USE: church

ORIGINAL USE: church

ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
J. A. Dampwolf

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:

PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:

Excellent () Good (X)

Fair () Poor ()

THEME: church

STYLE: Queen Anne

DATE BUILT: 1890

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:

No Threat (X) Zoning () Roads ()

Development () Deterioration ()

Alteration () Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:

Positive (X) Negative ()

Mixed () Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

CARR-172

cross-shaped plan
steeply-pitched roof - hipped gables on two wings
bell-tower centrally located at cross
1890 design by J. A. Dimpwolf
1950 addition by Alfred Hemme
1969 modern brick wing to south of the building

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

none

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

One of the few Queen Anne style church structure in the county

REFERENCES:

1862 Martenet's Map: Kvider's Church
1877 LG & S Atlas: Kvider's Church

"Service of Dedication and 190th Anniversary, 1761-1961" Church Files of the Historical Society of Carroll Co.,
St. Benjamin's Lutheran Church

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Open Lane () Woodland () Scattered Buildings ()
Moderately Built Up () Densely-Built Up ()
Residential () Commercial ()
Agricultural () Industrial ()
Roadside Strip Development ()
Other:

RECORDED BY:

Joe Getty

ORGANIZATION:

Carroll Co. Planning Dept

DATE RECORDED:

August 1983

Benjamin's (Krieger's)
Lutheran

❧ ST. BENJAMIN'S ❧ LUTHERAN CHURCH ❧

The records for the period 1782-1818 are meager. A financial statement bearing the date 1782 was signed by "Freid Gerresheim, Pastor". The name "Gerresheim" appears nowhere in the Minutes of the Ministerium. It must therefore be concluded that either Gerresheim was not ordained, or belonged to another denomination. He was probably a supply pastor.

The Second Church

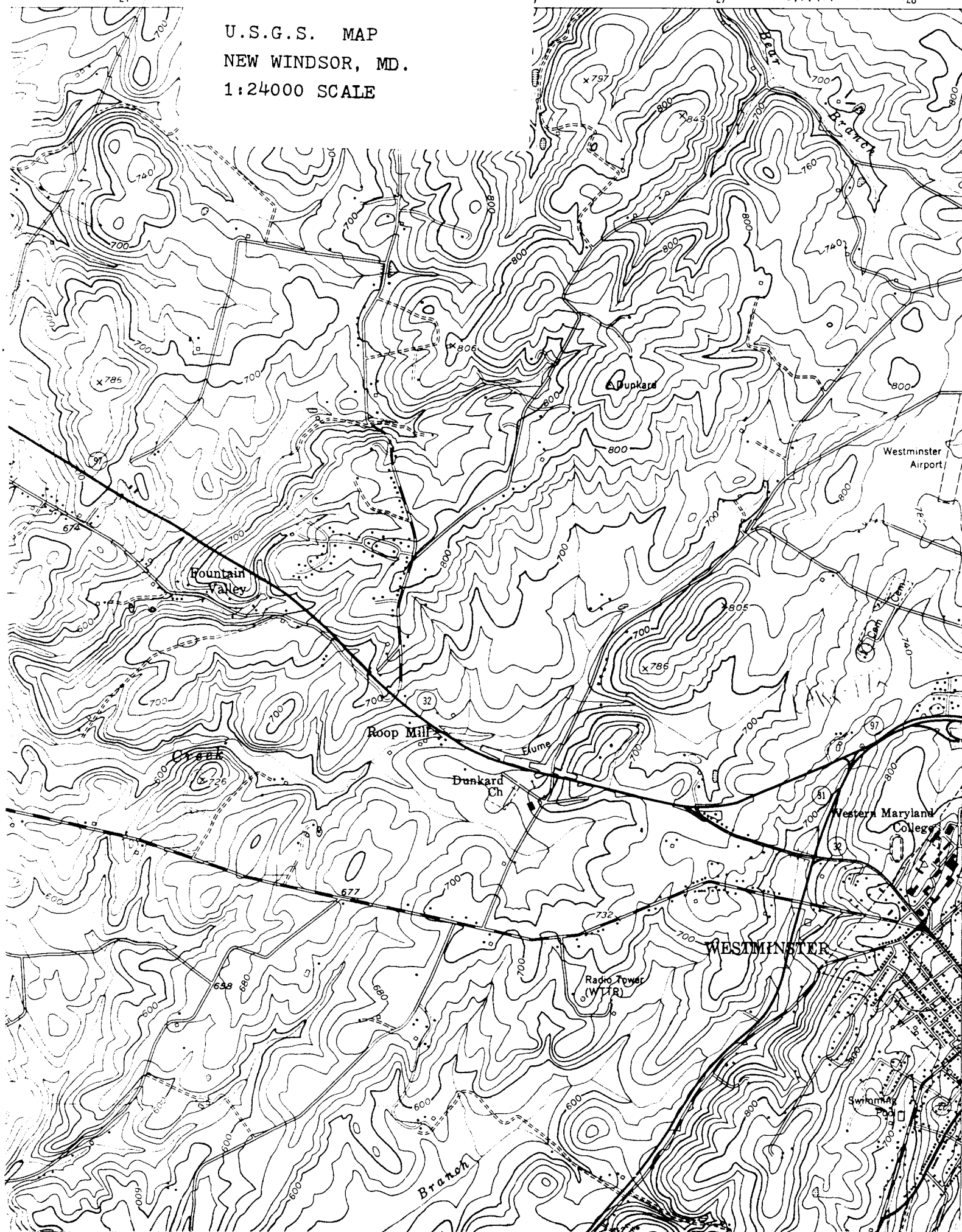
In 1783 Rev. Daniel Shroeder succeeded Rev. Wildbahn as pastor of the "country churches" in the vicinity of Hanover. A year later he reported to the Ministerium eight congregations. It is more than likely that Benjamin's was one of the eight. Rev. Shroeder lived in Hanover and ministered to a group of congregations until 1802.



THE SECOND CHURCH (UNION) BUILT IN 1809

During this 36-year period Reverends Frederick and John (father and son) Melsheimer served St. Matthew's 1790-1814-1826. One or both of these pastors may have had connections with Benjamin's.

U.S.G.S. MAP
NEW WINDSOR, MD.
1:24000 SCALE





1. CARR-172 ST. BENJAMIN'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. August 1983
5. Md. Historical Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. East elevation (camera facing
northwest)
7. 1/2



1. CARR-172 ST. BENJAMIN'S LUTHERAN
2. Carroll County, Maryland CHURCH
3. Joe Getty
4. August 1983
5. Md. Historical Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. East elevation (camera facing southwest)
7. 2/2



St. Benjamin's (Kviders) Lutheran Church

Feb - 79

Com. - 172

S/E elevation

Fred E.



St. Benjamin's (Kiders) Lutheran

Feb. - 79

Can. - 172

~~SW~~^{W/E} elevation

Fredi E.



St. Benjamin's (Wider) Lutheran Church

Feb. - 79

Can. - 172

S/E front + ~~N/E~~ side

Arch E.